

SAVE THESE DATES!

- **Teacher Appreciation Potluck and Retreat**, January 9
- **Shrove Tuesday** Pancake Dinner and Talent Show, March 8
- **Ash Wednesday Worship**, March 9
- **Lenten Art Show**, beginning March 13, Sanctuary
- **CROP Walk**, March 27
- **American Baptist Churches of the South (ABCOTS)**, March 29-April 2, Atlanta
- **Taize Worship Service** with communion, April 3
- **Palm Sunday and Holy Week**, April 17-22:
 - Community Labyrinth Walk (with Labyrinth workshops)
 - Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services
- **Easter Sunday**, April 24: Sunrise Service, Breakfast, Worship
- **Alliance of Baptists Convocation**, April 29-May 1, Louisville, KY
- **NAMI Walk**, April 30
- **Music Celebration Sunday**, May 8
- **Christian Education Celebration Sunday**, May 22, with End-of-the-Year Picnic in the afternoon
- **Vacation Bible School**, June 19-24
- **ABC Biennial**, June 24-26, Puerto Rico
- **Baptist Peace Fellowship** of North America Summer Conference (Peace Camp), July 4-9, Harrisonburg, VA
- **Church Retreat**, Aug 12-14, Haw River St Pk, Browns Summit, NC
- **2011 Women's Retreat**, October 28-30, Avila Retreat Center, Durham

Please feel free to contact any of the members of our Board of Christian Education for any issue related to these programs:

- Stewart Bankhead, Member-at-Large
- Wanda Burton-Crutchfield, Worship with Children
- Nancy Cheek, Member-at-Large
- Meg Graham, Co-Chair
- Linda Hill-Wise, Secretary
- Betsy Hughes, Preschool
- Anna Kirby, Preschool
- Jill Lowe, Elementary
- Ashley Nissler, Co-Chair
- Heather Rabalais, Church School
- Pam Reed, Elementary
- Ellen Stutts, Youth
- Karen Van Manen, Adult
- John Burton-Crutchfield and Chris Copeland, Interim Staff

Binkley Baptist Church

1712 Willow Drive Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-942-4964 www.binkleychurch.



BINKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Winter/Spring 2011 Classes for
Children, Youth and Adults

Church School for All Ages

Sundays, 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.; Starting January 9

No Church School on April 24: join us for Easter Breakfast!

Last day of Church School – May 22

Binkley Baptist Church offers a *community* that nurtures growth in faith. Our church covenant reflects our commitment to be church together as we “express our faithfulness to Christ in love for one another and for the whole of God’s creation.” Our church programs flow from this desire to love God, each other, and our neighbors. In the coming months, we will have numerous opportunities to share in the educational and formational life of our congregation.

ADULT CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES

Beginning January 9

Warren Nord’s Legacy to Us: A Twentieth Century Conscience for the Twenty-First Century – *meets in the Lounge*

For the last four Sundays of January you are invited to engage in an extended conversation provoked by *Ten Essays on Good and Evil*. Four Binkley members will lead the conversation on each successive Sunday. A brief introduction to each session will provide the basics. You may wish to join in reading the book in preparation for each session. Copies are available for borrowing in the Church Library or may be purchased from John Burton-Crutchfield for \$15.00 each.

January 9 – Reflections on “Reflections on My Cancer and Death”: In this session **Weldon Thornton** will provide some background and context on the entire *Ten Essays on Good and Evil* volume, then focus on the first essay “Reflections on my Cancer and Death.”

January 16 – Lives That Change Us – Carol Ripley-Moffitt: Warren Nord writes about three men he greatly admired. We will look at the particular aspects of their lives that influenced Warren's beliefs about suffering, good, and evil. Participants will be invited to name people whose lives have shaped their own understanding of these concepts.

January 23 – A Humane Education – Matthew Ripley-Moffitt

If religion does not have a role in education, is that education humane? If religion does not speak in public discourse, is that discourse moral? On our multi-cultural, globally inter-connected economic sphere can a humane education speak truth to the powers of fear, separation, and religious & philosophical fundamentalism? Participants will be invited to consider the role of religion in their education, the changing dynamics of public education, and the power of religion (not just religious institutions) in the modern world.

January 30 – God, Suffering and Evil – Collins Kilburn: How can we reasonably believe in a God who is good and all powerful when there is so much evil and suffering in the world? This question bothered Warren Nord from his childhood through his adulthood. Much of his teaching and one of his last essays was devoted to it. This session will examine and discuss his attempt at a resolution.

Coffee & Conversation – Room 17, through 5/22; facilitated by Marilyn Metcalf

What does it mean to know and be known? What would it take to know and be known by others? Just as Parker Palmer challenged people of faith to wonder about these questions, this class asks participants to risk creating relationships based on knowing and being known. Using poetry, lectionary scriptures, artwork, stories from NPR, or the day-to-day challenges of living, participants in the class engage one another while sharing a cup of coffee. The class is open to anyone who wants to dip their toe in the waters of connection. Our reputation is raucous, but we promise not to bite – too hard! The class shares leadership among its members.

Beginning February 6

The Church, the Bible, and Social Justice: A Look at the Hebrew Prophets and Binkley Church for the 21st Century – Lounge, runs through April; taught by Michael and Maria Palmer and Charles Coble

Binkley Baptist Church was founded as a prophetic voice in the middle of the Civil Rights struggle. What does it mean to be a prophetic voice today? How can we energize our community, experience the awe of God's presence, and honestly deal with the pain of injustice in our broader community? We will read Walter Brueggeman's book, *The Prophetic Imagination*, look at the history of our church, discuss the lives of Christian leaders like Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Martin Luther King, Jr., who saw their Christian faith as inseparable from the call of justice, and examine the biblical prophets as critics of the accepted religious and political voices of their time. Fundamentalist use of scripture has made many progressive Christians reluctant to talk about the Bible. We will address this issue squarely and propose a different way of reading that liberates scripture from conservative politics and gives it a welcomed place in our justice-centered community.

Giving – Binkley seeks to be a generous church in the care of one another, our facilities, and our wider mission in the world. Children may give an offering in VBS, church school, and worship. Children may bring non-perishable food to the narthex, which supports the local Inter-Faith Council (IFC). Children have participated in CROP and NAMI walks. Some have chosen to serve as church greeters, water a church plant, or bake bread for communion. Elementary children have service projects in the fall and the spring. The youth group offers expanded opportunities for service – including gleaning sweet potatoes, collecting food for IFC, providing leadership for Vacation Bible School and working on Habitat for Humanity projects.

Youth Program – Opportunities for youth in grades 6-12 includes the following Sunday events:
Church School classes – 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Youth Choir – 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Youth Group – 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Sunday Youth Group meetings begin with supper and moves into a variety of games, discussions, and other activities.

Specific Dates for Youth Activities:

February 5	Ski Trip
March	Discipleship Class
April 29-May 1	Beach Retreat
May 15	Youth Sunday
June 19-24	Vacation Bible School
June 26-July 1	Baptist Youth Camp



Children and Youth Programs

Our church family honors and nurtures our children and youth through many programs, activities, and ministry opportunities.

Church School is a foundation for faith and community, as we learn stories and build relationships.

Church School Teachers

Toddlers and Twos: Pat McKenzie, Kay Pratt

Preschool: Nancy Cheek, Angela Snider, Jane Walters

K–1st: Roal Carlson, Lyn Lamont, Nina Stein, Linda

Textoris, Elizabeth Thompson, Drew Baker, Mary Ann & Tim Bradshaw, Martha Green

2nd–3rd: Laurie Heffner, Kathy Keyser, Jill Lowe, Ilona Page

4th–5th: Michael Bean, Lori Cahill, Steve Jernigan

Youth: Allen Davidson, Dale Osborne, Susan Read, Mike Reed, Ray Speller

Worship with Children – During the worship hour, we offer worship groups for children about three Sundays per month. Adults and youth lead this program, which focuses on stories, discussion and spiritual growth. This program has a Montessori influence.

Nursery – Childcare is provided on Sunday mornings year-round. We offer care for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. Binkley employs several qualified caregivers, assisted by rotating volunteers from the congregation.

Worship – Each Sunday, we gather to be renewed for faithful living in the world (beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Summer; 11:00 a.m. in the school year). We celebrate the many ways children participate in Binkley worship:

- *Serving as acolytes during the school year*
- *Singing in worship*
- *Leading as liturgists*
- *Presenting Bibles to 2nd graders each year*
- *Blessing and dedicating infants and children*
- *Participating in worship as part of the larger community*



John Milton's *Paradise Lost* – Sunroom, through 5/22; taught by Weldon Thornton

In addition to being one of our greatest literary works, John Milton's epic poem *Paradise Lost* has had considerable effect on how we understand and imagine the biblical story of the origin of Satan, and of what happened in the Garden of Eden, leading to and including the fall of Adam and Eve. Our class will attend carefully to both the literary and the theological aspects of the poem. Attendees are encouraged to read the whole poem, but class discussion will focus on only about one-fourth of it. After one or two sessions of context-setting, the class meetings will be devoted to close scrutiny of specific passages in the poem.

Text: Any text of the poem that has book and line numbers will suffice. The text Weldon will be using is the edition by David Scott Kastan, a paperback from Hackett Publishing Company available for \$11.95. Kastan's edition has an extensive introduction and line by line annotations. (Weldon is willing to order copies for those who have trouble getting their own.)

Beginning in May

A class sponsored by Binkley Peace & Justice Action. Details forthcoming.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS

Sermon Shaping

A Bible study is held every **Tuesday at 12:30 in the library**. All are welcome. The Bible passages we discuss will be for the coming Sunday, and are drawn from the Revised Common Lectionary. Feel free to bring your lunch along.

Wednesday Morning Prayer Group

This group gathers in the Chapel for centering prayer each Wednesday from 9:00-9:45 a.m., September through May. All are welcome.

PrimeTimers

PrimeTimers meet at 12:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month through May for lunch and discussion.

Veni Spiritus

Veni Spiritus, meaning “Come, Spirit,” meets every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel. All are welcome to join this worship experience.

Chapel, Labyrinth, Library

The church **Chapel, located beyond the Narthex**, is available for personal meditation and prayers. We have a permanent **labyrinth** outdoors here at Binkley, located in the courtyard, surrounded by the building, sanctuary and playground. People walk a labyrinth to pray and to meditate; simply follow the path outlined by the rocks. The labyrinth is unique in all seasons. The church **library** is located near the Fellowship Hall. With resources for all ages, it is a comfortable place to relax and catch your breath.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS at BINKLEY

Please join us on Wednesdays in the Fellowship Hall beginning Jan 12 for a hearty meal, children's choir, and conversation for youth and adults.

Weekly Schedule

- 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Dinner in the Fellowship Hall.** The meal will accommodate both meat lovers and vegetarians, and rotate between catered meals, potlucks, and those prepared by talented church members. **Costs** (on non-potluck nights): \$6 for ages 10 & up, \$3 for ages 4-9, and free for under age 4, with a maximum of \$20 per household.
- 6:15 – 7:15 p.m. Children's Choir:** Children in Grades K-5, who can read and commit to come each week, gather in the choir room with Leandra and Bo. **Children 0-4 years gather in Room 6.**
- 6:30 – 7:15 p.m. Programs for Youth and Adults**
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal** (childcare for rehearsal available upon request)

Sign up EACH WEEK: add your name to the list in the narthex, respond to the Friday email invitation, or call the church office at 942-4964. You may also sign up to prepare the Fellowship Hall, or clean up afterwards. Friday Update and Sunday announcement pages will have more details.

Programs for Youth and Adults

January 12 – February 16, adults and youth can choose between two exciting classes:

Steadfast Hope: The Palestinian Quest For Just Peace, facilitated by Christine Andersen: How can we contribute to the cause of a just peace for the people who share the Holy Land today? This 6-week class will be a study/discussion of the origins of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, a look at the present situation on the ground, and a guide to the changes ahead in the quest for peace. We will use the 48-page booklet "Steadfast Hope" with accompanying DVD. Class will include an opening prayer, an overview of the readings and DVD viewing, a discussion, and questions for further exploration. Copies of the study booklet, which includes the DVD, are available for \$5 each from Christine (932-4509, caandersen@aol.com).

How A Poem Means, led by Nancy Joyner and Laurence Avery: Poet Edwin Arlington Robinson, when asked how to read a poem, replied that it should be read one word at a time. These sessions are a continuation of the 2010 spring Church School class in which one or two poems each session will be given a close reading. The method will be to provide copies of the poems at the beginning of class. They will be read aloud twice. The leaders will tell a bit about the poets, answer factual questions if they can, and open the class for discussion. No two people ever read a poem exactly the same, and no one person ever reads a poem exactly the same way twice.

February 23: Ray Speller, our Ministry Intern, will share about his experience growing up in the African-American church.

March 2: Meal and Fellowship Night; no formal program will take place.

March 9: Ash Wednesday service; no meal or program.

March 16 – April 13, Lenten Series: *Paths to God*. This series will focus on five different ways in which Christians through the ages and today have learned to experience God in their lives and in their world. Each Wednesday's program will consist of a brief presentation, followed by time spent in prayer and/or meditation consistent with the person whose thoughts and experience have been presented.

